

from each window, on each of the eight floors of the building.

Like the individual stars standing united together, the Senate offices were spontaneously united in a pure and impromptu display of patriotism and loyalty.

If anyone ever had doubts about our Nation's resolve to persevere in the face of terrorism, they would be put to rest at that moment.

As Franklin Lane said, each of us makes the Flag.

As we work to build our Nation and extend its ideals throughout the world, we are extending the constellation of stars our Founding Fathers saw in the 13 colonies. And today, the light of this constellation extends throughout the world.

This is what we celebrate on both Flag Day and the Army's birthday.

Each in its way reminds us of the continuing work of our Nation, to create a more perfect union, united under one flag, defended by one force, and inspired by a shared vision of a future, as the Pledge states, "with liberty and justice for all."

#### AULD-BROKAW TRAIL DAY

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, today I recognize the Auld-Brokaw Trail Day that is scheduled for June 19, 2004, in Yankton, SD. This day-long initiative is the culmination of years of hard work from numerous Yankton leaders, including the Yankton Rotary Club, the Auld-Brokaw Trail Committee, the City of Yankton and the Yankton Parks and Recreation Department.

This day also represents the completion of Tom Brokaw and Meredith Auld Brokaw's vision to further enhance the community where they first met nearly a half century ago.

Several years ago, Yankton leaders designed the concept for an expansive walking trail as part of a flood mitigation project. Yankton raised \$1 million for the Auld-Brokaw Trail, relying upon investments from residents—past and present. With a generous donation from the Brokaws, the dream soon became a reality. The city began construction in 2001.

As the trail began to take shape, an Outdoor Classroom to further capitalize on the educational opportunities that it presented. The partnership that developed between the Brokaws, the Yankton Rotary Club and the Rotary Foundation is the way that most things get accomplished in my State—good people working together toward a shared vision.

The Outdoor Campus along the Auld-Brokaw Trail will feature flowers and grasses native to the South Dakota prairie. The nearly 3 acres of natural lands will be a great resource to showcase the area's beauty. The Yankton Chamber of Commerce has already found the Auld-Brokaw Trail to be a strong regional recreational attraction.

As we know all too well, Americans are spending less active time outdoors.

This trend is having a negative impact on our country's collective health, and I was pleased to learn that the Avera Sacred Heart Hospital in Yankton will sponsor health and walking programs along the Auld-Brokaw Trail in conjunction with the upcoming events. A Pilates demonstration, nutrition forum and community walk will teach area residents about the important contribution that the Auld-Brokaw Trail can make to the community's health.

The Auld-Brokaw Trail is an outstanding enhancement of Yankton's beauty, and the Outdoor Classroom addition will strengthen the trail's attractiveness. I am pleased that Yankton residents will soon come together to celebrate the completion of this outstanding project, and I am proud to recognize this outstanding effort.

Tom and Meredith Brokaw's friendship began in high school. He went to Boys State, allowing him to have lunch with South Dakota Governor Joe Foss, a World War Congressional Medal of Honor winner. She went to Girls Nation, where she met President Eisenhower in the Rose Garden of the White House. They were class leaders; Tom's broadcast career began on KYNT Radio. Though they are far away geographically, their emotional bond remains strong.

"The world in which I work and live is a long way from home," Brokaw wrote in his 2002 book, "but the early bearings I took as a child on the prairie, surrounded by working people and the communities they established, often in difficult circumstances, have been a steady and reassuring presence. They are familiar markers and sentinels, useful and reliable even now, forty years after I left the land and the people that launched me."

Yankton continues to be blessed by the generous way that Tom and Meredith Brokaw have chosen to give back to the community that provided so much to them. The Auld-Brokaw Trail and the Outdoor Classroom are two of the latest examples.

#### CONGRATULATING SHANKARI RAJAGOPAL

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I congratulate Shankari Rajagopal on her outstanding performance at the 77th annual Scripps National Spelling Bee.

Nevada's lone speller at the national competition, Shankari outlasted 219 of 265 contestants to earn a spot among the top 46 competitors. An eighth grader at Churchill County High School, Shankari won the Nevada State Spelling Bee in March to earn the right to participate in the national competition. She had finished 12th and 6th in the State contest the previous 2 years.

Administered by The E.W. Scripps Company in conjunction with more than 250 sponsors around the world, the Scripps National Spelling Bee is the Nation's largest and longest-running educational promotion. Each sponsor

organizes a spelling bee program in its community, with the local champions advancing to the finals in Washington, DC. This tremendous program helps thousands of students every year improve their spelling and expand their vocabularies through a fun competition.

I was able to visit with Shankari an hour before her last day of competition. She was relaxed and satisfied with her tremendous accomplishment, as well she should be. I was very impressed with her parents who came to Washington, DC, to support her. They too were proud of what she had accomplished, and this helped to put her at ease.

I have seen too many parents, in athletics and other student activities, put such tremendous pressure on their children that it takes away from the pleasure of the student's involvement. But not so with Shankari's parents. I congratulate Jeeks and Karpagam, her mother and father, for doing such a great job of raising their daughter.

The Fallon community and the State of Nevada can take great pride in Shankari's performance in the State and national competitions. It reflects her strong commitment to her education and her tremendous potential. Please join me in congratulating this talented young Nevadan on her impressive achievement.

#### CONGRATULATING ALVIN McLANE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I congratulate Mr. Alvin McLane, a Nevada Bureau of Land Management, BLM, volunteer, on his selection for the "Making A Difference" award. This award recognizes Alvin's strong commitment to preserving the natural and cultural heritage of our public lands.

Mr. McLane is one of seven individuals who received this prestigious national award this year. As a volunteer for the Nevada BLM's Carson City field office, he recorded more than 120 discrete cultural sites primarily in the Dry Lake area of northwestern Nevada. Mr. McLane also instituted a full-scale monitoring program for the area.

Thousands of volunteers throughout the country contribute to the preservation of the 261 million acres of public lands managed by the BLM. Volunteers donated approximately 1.5 million hours last year alone, tantamount to the work of 866 full-time employees with an estimated value of \$25 million. Launched in 1996 as a part of the "Take Pride in America" initiative, the "Making A Difference" program has recognized 87 individuals or groups for their exemplary service.

Mr. McLane has demonstrated a commendable commitment to public service. Please join me in thanking him for his tremendous efforts.

#### HONORING ROGER PELTYN

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I extend my condolences to the family of Roger

Peltyn, who passed away in Las Vegas on June 3.

Roger left behind his loving wife Sandy, with whom he shared his life for 33 years, and two sons, R.J. and Michael. His passing leaves an empty place in the lives of those who knew and loved him. It also leaves a void in our community.

Roger was a structural engineer, and he was instrumental in building many glamorous structures that are synonymous with Las Vegas—landmarks like the Mirage, Bellagio, Mandalay Bay, Luxor, and Excalibur. He also helped to build many schools, stores, office properties, and much more.

But Roger did not just build structures. He also helped to build a stronger community in southern Nevada. The projects and causes that he adopted are almost too numerous to name: the UNLV President's Council, the Nevada Development Authority, the Clark County Public Education Foundation, the Desert Research Institute, Opportunity Village, and many other charities.

For the past decade, Roger served as president of an organization called Nevada Arts Advocates, which is dedicated to improving the cultural climate in Nevada and promoting the arts. His love of the arts enriched our whole State.

With Sandy by his side, Roger raised millions of dollars for worthy causes. Every Nevadan owes both of them a debt of gratitude.

Roger was born in Brooklyn, and he came to Las Vegas as so many folks do, by way of California. He moved to Las Vegas when Steve Wynn asked for his help during the expansion of the famous Golden Nugget resort. And just a month ago, Roger was still giving Steve Wynn advice about the new resort he is building.

Roger and his partner Jack Martin started a 5 man engineering firm that now employs more than 60 people. That is a testament to the amazing growth of Las Vegas, which would not have been possible without Roger Peltyn.

Nevada will miss Roger Peltyn. He left us too soon. But his legacy will live on in the magnificent buildings he helped to construct, and the community he helped to create. Nevada is a better place because of him.

#### HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

LANCE CORPORAL JEREMY BOHLMAN

Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, I am saddened to report the passing of Lance Corporal Jeremy Bohlman of Sioux Falls, SD. He was killed on June 7, 2004, while serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Jeremy was assigned to the 1st Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion out of Camp Pendleton, CA. He first went to Iraq in January 2003, before the invasion, and returned to the United States in June 2003. He was completing his second tour of duty in Iraq when he was killed by an explosion while con-

ducting combat operations in Al Anbar Province, Iraq.

Jeremy, who was married 2 weeks before being deployed, is described by friends and family as a hard worker with lots of friends who found his niche in the Marines. He served with great distinction and received the Combat Action Ribbon, the Marine Corps Good Conduct Medal, the Marine Corps Expeditionary Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal and the Sea Service Deployment Ribbon.

The lives of countless people were enormously enhanced by Jeremy's goodwill and service. He inspired all those who knew him. Our Nation is a far better place because of his life. All Americans owe Jeremy, and the other soldiers who have made the ultimate sacrifice in defense of freedom, a tremendous debt of gratitude for their service.

I express my sympathies to the family and friends of Lance Corporal Jeremy Bohlman. I believe the best way to honor him is to emulate his commitment to our country. I know he will always be missed, but his service to our Nation will never be forgotten.

#### FLAG DAY

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, in August 1814, during the War of 1812, the British Navy bombarded Fort McHenry in Baltimore. A lawyer and amateur poet named Francis Scott Key from nearby Washington witnessed the attack from a British ship, where he had been attempting to secure the release of some American prisoners. The bombardment continued through the night and many watching feared that the fort, which guarded the approach to Baltimore, would shatter under the onslaught. When at last the dawn came, Fort McHenry still stood, its enormous American flag, though tattered, still flying. The exhausted British forces retreated.

Francis Scott Key captured the relief and exhilaration of that turning point in history in a poem, which he titled "The Defense of Fort M'Henry." His verses were subsequently printed widely, and a note added that said the accompanying tune was "Anacreon in Heaven," then a popular tune. In October 1814, a Baltimore actor sang Key's new song in a public performance, calling it, for the first time, "The Star Spangled Banner." The Star Spangled Banner became the national anthem in 1931 by an act of Congress. Though difficult for many people to sing, this anthem has retained its popularity because it so eloquently captures the love we have as a nation for our flag and the tender regard we have for the Nation those colors represent.

Since the tragic events of September 11, 2001, Americans have grown used to the sight of American flags. Beginning just hours after those horrifying images hit our television screens, people reached into their closets and hung

flags by their front doors, in their front yards, from their cars, and in front of their businesses. After the gauntlet of terrorism had been flung in our face, we as a nation answered the insult in a resounding and defiant way. Instinctively, we knew what to do. Our collective consciousness recalled the words from the Star Spangled Banner: "Oh, say, does that star spangled banner yet wave? O'er the land of the free, and the home of the brave?" Together, we made sure that our banner still waved.

This last weekend, on the 60th anniversary of the D-Day invasion of Normandy, American flags again flew proudly as Americans and Europeans remembered and honored the heroic sacrifices of June 4, 1944, that led to the liberation of that beleaguered continent. On those distant shores, the last cohort of an earlier generation accepted the enduring thanks of nations and peoples freed from the terrible bonds of occupation.

World War II brought out the best in America. Facing a clear and present danger, the Nation, like a team of horses hitched to a heavy load, dug deep and pulled together to put the enormous energy and resources of our bountiful land to work. Vast armies were trained and sent to battlefields across three continents. Fleets of ships were built to ferry unimaginable quantities of materiel to support those troops. Swarms of aircraft, armadas of battleships, and vast thundering herds of tanks were built and sent forth to defeat our enemies. Our scientists harnessed their creativity to produce new technology and new weapons more deadly and more terrifying than any mankind had ever before seen. Though our losses were staggering, the Nation persevered until the happy days that American flags drove proudly into Paris and flew over Germany, Italy and Japan. Never before, and, I fervently hope and pray, never again will the world see war waged on such a scale.

Today, we are again at war. Our enemies are different, shadowy and elusive, and their tactics and methods of operation are most un-military. Not for them the open field of battle, but rather the saboteur's stealthy attack. Still, American troops lie encamped in Afghanistan and Iraq. Daily, they face attacks that, sadly, send home too many of our men and women in uniform shrouded beneath an American flag. For these fallen heroes, the music is "Taps," not the "Star Spangled Banner." The flag, however, was much the same as the one that flew over Fort McHenry all those years ago.

Each June 14, we honor the flag, marking the day in 1777 that the Continental Congress adopted a resolution that stated simply: "Resolved, That the flag of the thirteen United States be thirteen stripes alternate red and white; that the union be thirteen stars, white in a blue field, representing a new constellation."

In the Nation's early years, the actual design of the flag, whether the